

convict who had robbed a local store. Throughout my law career, I had the chance to interact with Sergeant Chapin on many occasions. I found him to be an outstanding officer and an even better human being.

Officer Lorin Johnston, who a few years ago donated a kidney to a fellow officer, was wounded during the gun battle as well.

I ask everyone to join me in saying many prayers for Sergeant Chapin's family and his wife, Kelle, as she now has to raise two boys as a single mother.

Today we remember officers Chapin and Johnston and those who serve alongside of them keeping our community safe. They are our heroes.

PROTECT AMERICANS FROM BIG POLLUTERS

(Ms. SPEIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will consider a misguided and dangerous bill to repeal the Clean Air Act standards that protect Americans from big polluters.

Republicans are calling this bill the Energy Tax Prevention Act, except there is nothing to do with preventing taxes in the bill. Instead, this Dirty Air Act is a giveaway to any company who wants to dump pollution into the air free of charge and is a big gimme to all the Members of Congress hoping to collect their share of dirty campaign contributions.

If my Republican colleagues want to write a bill to overturn a decision by the Supreme Court, turn science on its head, increase our dependence on foreign oil, and put the interests of big polluters above taxpayers, they should at least come up with a catchier title, like the "Make Smog in America Act" or the "National Hot Air Distribution Act."

If my Republican colleagues want to write a bill to guarantee that more American children get sick with asthma, maybe they could call it the "Take Your Child to the Emergency Room Act."

Really, anything else would do.

DEATH BY REGULATION

(Mr. FARENTHOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARENTHOLD. To balance our budget, we have got to do more than just cut spending. We've got to cut excessive government regulation that keeps businesses from growing, expanding and hiring more people. We have got to get rid of the culture of "no" that infects our regulatory agencies like a cancer.

A small business from south Texas that knows firsthand the detrimental impact of shortsighted and excessive

regulation is Zarsky Lumber Company with its 135 employees. They survived the Great Depression and this economic downturn, and they now face another big threat—the EPA and its job-killing rules.

Another large business is considering locating a new plant in China instead of south Texas to avoid oppressive regulations. Our government has become too big and Federal regulations too onerous.

In a recent meeting with a Federal agency, I asked how long their permitting process took. They told me between 3 and 7 years. How do regulators sleep at night knowing that every day they delay is a day someone doesn't get a job they need to support their families?

Our job is to help create jobs. And we create jobs by getting the government out of the way. Cutting redtape is just as important as cutting spending to get our financial house in order.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE RYAN BUDGET

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, today we are beginning to get some of Budget Chairman RYAN's proposals for so-called "fixing" our economy.

He doesn't propose eliminating tax breaks for the hugely profitable oil and gas industries. He doesn't consider asking multimillionaires to pay a fairer share. In fact, he wants to reduce the top corporate and individual tax rates so that middle class Americans can pay even more.

Instead, he is focused on cutting the safety net programs for our seniors and those less fortunate. He plans to turn Medicare into a voucher plan and to dramatically restrict eligibility for Medicaid.

Last week, Majority Leader CANTOR clearly explained Republicans' plans for Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security when he said, "Listen, we're going to have to come to grips with the fact that these programs cannot exist if we want America to be what we want America to be."

It is clear whose side Chairman RYAN and Majority Leader CANTOR are on. I stand with the Nation's seniors and the working people who are counting on Medicare and Social Security when they retire. When will these heartless attacks on the most vulnerable members of our communities stop? How about a little aloha?

GET TO WORK AND PASS A BILL

(Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it's been 45 days since House Republicans passed a bill to cut \$100 billion in Federal spending, spending that quite honestly the prior Congress

didn't have to spend and should have never appropriated.

I want to remind you that we are here today because Senator REID, the Democrats in the House, and the President when they were in charge last year chose not to pass a budget. It was irresponsible of them then and it is irresponsible of them now to continue to do nothing.

House Republicans spent 72 hours debating spending bills. We held 107 votes on spending amendments. Senate Democrats, 4 hours, four votes—4 hours and four votes in 45 days, Mr. Speaker.

I want you to think about that. It's unacceptable.

Senator REID needs to get to work and pass a bill. The American people need it. American livelihoods are depending on it. Senator REID just needs to wake up in the morning, put on his big-boy britches, come to the Capitol, pass the bill, and help us reduce this big hairy deficit.

MEDICARE

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my concern over my Republican colleagues' cheering the impending prospect of a government shutdown, as was reported in the press.

Then, this morning, we wake up to find out that the Republican proposal to address the deficit and debt is not to address major tax loopholes or tax earmarks, but it's to undermine Medicare and to end Medicare as we know it. Now, for decades and decades, we have had this wonderful Medicare program that ensured that our older neighbors live their retirement in dignity. They can see the doctor. If they have to go to the hospital, it is there for them. And a hospice benefit in their last days. This is all at risk now because the new Republican plan announced this morning will end Medicare as we know it by eliminating benefits.

We're not going to stand for it. We're going to stand on the side of our older neighbors to ensure that, yes, they can live their retirement years in dignity and financial security.

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CONGRATULATING WHEELING HIGH SCHOOL

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Wheeling High School students Preston Riley and Rajarshi Roy, who were selected as finalists in Samsung's national Solve for Tomorrow contest. I'm particularly proud of these students for their energy and creativity in using STEM education to tackle real-world challenges. Strong